

Drury, Margaret

From: Constantin von Wentzel [constantin@me.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2009 4:09 PM
To: Drury, Margaret
Subject: Fwd: Lesley Church Move

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

- > Dear Ms. Drury,
- >
- > I am writing to you today to state my opposition to the Church project
- > that Lesley University is proposing on Massachusetts Avenue.
- > While I am
- > a Alternate Member of the Avon Hill Historic District Commission
- > (AHHDC), these views are my own and do not in any way represent the
- > AHHDC or the Cambridge Historical Commission.
- >
- > The proposed site plan shows a relocated and significantly diminished
- > Church. I believe the Church has too much historical significance that
- > it should be allowed to suffer such a fate. A more balanced and
- > respectful building plan would allow the Church and the additions to
- > better coexist. It would also ensure that additions don't overwhelm
- > the church as they currently do.
- >
- > The loss of green space, especially along Massachusetts Avenue is
- > deplorable. Lesley University has other sites that are already paved
- > over where additional building construction would have a smaller
- > impact.
- >
- > The proposed building around the diminished church is completely at
- > odds with all the adjoining architecture. Glass cubes may be
- > inexpensive to build but they are incongruous with the surrounding
- > architecture and energy inefficient.

Lesley University also has yet to adequately address the issue of increased traffic due to the new building. Considering how congested Porter Square already is, additional traffic will not help.

I urge the city of Cambridge request further consideration of this proposal before approving it.

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